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peculiarities of the Indian law created a demand for it which soon exceeded the supply and led to the production thus early of a second edition. The authors have adhered rather closely to the plan of the first edition, their aim being to bring the work down to date rather than to remedy any acknowledged defects. They have further increased the serviceability of the work by making the index more exhaustive, and by adding an introduction which consists in a concise summary, covering about fifty pages, of the law discussed in the text.

The general plan of the work is one more frequently followed in text-books on criminal law than in those on torts. The general principles are considered in the preliminary chapters and are applied later in the treatment of the various torts under separate headings. The method of presenting the subject is a common one, the discussion of principles being followed by illustrative cases taken from the reports. A great many Indian cases are given, and peculiarities of the Indian law and conflicts of authority between the various Indian courts are carefully pointed out. The names of leading cases appear in black type. The authors have drawn heavily upon other text-writers for principles, and have made little or no attempt to set forth views of their own. Their work in recording the opinions of others, however, and in stating the law as laid down in the cases shows great care and industry. The work is more comprehensive than many other text-books on the subject. It treats of torts in the master and servant, and principal and agent relations, of infringement of patent and copyright, of liability of carriers and innkeepers, and of several other subjects frequently considered in separate treatises.

The interest of the American reader in the book is of course centred upon the peculiar phases shown by the Indian law of torts. It is rather surprising to find how few of these peculiar phases there are. One of the most noteworthy is the jealousy with which the right to privacy is guarded in most Indian jurisdictions. It is interesting again to note how well old principles apply to the unfamiliar situations which Indian life affords. But on the whole one finds the Indian law of torts little different from that of any other country where the common law is in force.

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**BRIEF UPON THE PLEADINGS IN CIVIL ACTIONS, AT LAW, IN EQUITY, AND UNDER THE NEW PROCEDURE.** By Austin Abbott. Second Edition. In two volumes. Rochester: The Lawyers' Co-operative Publishing Company. 1904. pp. xxxiii, 1-867; xvii, 869-2120. 8vo.

The authors of this work have aimed to produce a ready-reference manual for the trial lawyer, and they have succeeded. Since the first edition appeared in 1891 it has been recognized as a most serviceable book, perhaps the most serviceable book of its kind in existence. In general scope the present edition follows the lines of the first. One new chapter has been added, dealing with amendments and changes. But most of the increased space in the new edition, which is more than twice the size of the old, is accounted for by the improvements in the citations. These are fuller and more explicit. Not only are many new cases cited, but the old ones are more carefully distinguished and classified. Altogether, the work as it now stands is an adequate treatise on the matter and the manner of pleadings at common law, in equity, and under the codes of the various states.

The main virtues of a good book of this kind are three: it should be well arranged; it should be comprehensive; and it should be reliable. The first of these requirements this work abundantly satisfies. In the text the subjects are arranged and discussed in the order in which questions upon them would naturally arise in the progress of an action. The table of contents is well provided with headings and sub-headings. In the volume on issues of fact, as well as the one on demurrer, these are treated alphabetically. In the index the rules in reference to any one subject, without regard to the stage of proceeding at which they prevail, are collected under that subject.

As regards comprehensiveness and reliability, it is obvious that only one who

has used a book long and constantly can speak with certainty. The book is meant for the trial lawyer, and only a trial lawyer can really form an opinion of its merits in this regard. The publishers do not claim that the work is exhaustive; but it would seem as if a book of twenty-two hundred pages on the subject of pleading must come reasonably near that desirable end. As regards the question of reliability, some considerable verification of the citations has been made with satisfactory result.

**A TREATISE ON STOCK AND STOCKHOLDERS** covering watered stock, trusts, consolidations and holding companies. By Arthur L. Helliwell. St. Paul: Keefe-Davidson Company. 1903. pp. xxxiii, 1071. 8vo.

This is a thoroughly modern, practical book upon a live and growing subject. Though not purporting to cover the whole field of corporations, it deals in a very comprehensive fashion with many of the most important groups of questions growing out of corporate existence. The extensive formation of business corporations in the last few years has made the subject of corporate stock as a species of property a very important one in the business world. Thus a large portion of this book is devoted to a consideration of the different branches of this phase of the legal status of stock, covering nearly every important question that may concern the subscriber, purchaser, owner, or dealer. The chapters on "Transfer of Shares" and on "Watered Stock" deserve especial mention. Woven in with, and following upon this discussion, is a consideration of the rights, duties, and liabilities of stockholders, and the methods of their enforcement. Particular emphasis is laid upon stockholders' suits and the liabilities of stockholders to the corporation, and to its creditors. As a matter closely related to these general topics, the author includes an excellent chapter upon "Trust Agreements, Consolidations, and Holding Companies." This chapter treats briefly the different phases taken by the so-called trust of recent years, and touches upon the many varied problems that have arisen in the great mass of litigation which has clustered about this subject. It closes with a brief consideration of the Northern Securities Case before the Circuit Court. The immense importance of this subject and its present undeveloped condition render a discussion of this kind of considerable value. The book is well printed, well arranged, and its text carefully divided into sections and paragraphs in accordance with a thorough topical analysis. This work will be found to be a practical working treatise, an excellent reference work upon all the topics included within its scope.

W. H. H.

**THE CONVEYANCE OF ESTATES IN FEE BY DEED.** Being a statement of the principles of law involved in the drafting and interpretation of deeds of conveyance and in the examination of titles to real property. By James H. Brewster. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company. 1904. pp. lxxvii, 607. 8vo.

This is a convenient practical manual of ordinary conveyancing. It is devoted chiefly to a discussion of the elements and the essential parts of the deed, considering their necessity, their effect, and their interpretation. Each element is discussed with considerable detail, and its relation to the remainder of the instrument carefully indicated. Many of the questions of interpretation that are frequently arising in cases of defects and inconsistencies in the deed are fully considered, and the rules of construction which have arisen to govern such cases are carefully stated. The difficulties of conveyancing are not so much those arising out of the drawing and the execution of the instrument — for that is ordinarily a simple matter — as they are those resulting from the carelessness and the errors of previous conveyancers. In the examination of a title questions of this nature are often most troublesome. It is in disentangling difficulties of this character that this volume is intended to be of service, and in